

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01 AID-20 TRSE-00 DRC-01

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R 121305Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9012

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 0962

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MILI KU

SUBJ: KUWAITI VIEWS ON AID TO PDRY AND OMAN

REF: KUWAIT 921, AND 920

1. DURING PRIVATE LUNCH MAR 11 FONMIN SABAH TOLD ME GOK NOT A LITTLE MIFFED BY OMANI MINSTATE FOR FINAFFS ZAWAWI'S PUBLIC STATEMENT AT LAHORE CRTICIZING KUWAITI AID TO PDRY (REFS). KUWAIT, SABAH SAID DEFENSIVELY, PROVIDED ONLY AID IN KIND PDRY SUCH AS SCHOOL AND HOSPITAL BUILDINGS -- NOT CASH OR MILITARY ITEMS. NOR WAS KUWAIT ABOUT TO GIVE OMAN MILITARY AID EITHER. KUWAIT DID NOT BELIEVE IN MILITARY SOLUTION TO INTRA-ARAB PROBLEMS, DHOFAR REBELLION INCLUDED. HOWEVER, GOK BUDGET THIS YEAR INCLUDED ONE MILLION DINARS (ABOUT \$3.38 MILLION) FOR AID TO OMAN, WHILE ALLOCATION FOR PDRY ONLY ABOUT ONE-HALF MILLION.

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2. FONMIN SABAH ADDED HE NOT IMPRESSED WITH EITHER OMANI OR SAUDI HANDLING OF PROBLEMS IN SOUTH ARABIA. SOUTH YEMENIS AND DHOFARIS OBVIOUSLY THOUGHT THEY HAD PROBLEMS AND IF THEIR APPROACH TO THEIR DIFFICULTIES DID NOT SUIT OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES, THEY MUST BE PERSUADED TO TAKE A DIFFERENT TACK. IF, AS SABAH THOUGHT, THE ROOT PROBLEM WAS POVERTY, THAT WAS THE ISSUE TO ATTACK FIRST.

3. I REPLIED THAT EVEN ASSUMING POVERTY OF PEOPLE OF SOUTH ARABIA WAS THE PRIMARY PROBLEM, FACT WAS THAT SULTAN QABUS WAS FACED WITH ARMED REBELLION AND INTERVENTION FROM PDRY. QABUS, AS HE HAD TOLD ME HIMSELF, WAS WELL AWARE THAT MILITARY ACTION WAS NOT FINAL SOLUTION AND HE HAD INITIATED CIVIL PROGRAMS IN JEBAL (MOUNTAIN AREA OF DHOFAR) WHEREVER FEASIBLE. NATIONAL DEFENSE OF SOUTHERN OMAN HOWEVER, ALSO ONE OF SULTAN'S BASIC DUTIES. I ADDED SULTAN HAD SPOKEN APPROVINGLY TO ME OF KUWAITI FONMIN'S OWN EFFORTS ACHIEVE END TO DHOFAR REBELLION.

4. "THAT'S WHAT HE TELLS YOU", SABAH SNORTED. HOWEVER, HE ADDED, PDRY PRIME MINISTER DUE VISIT KUWAIT SOON, AND GOK WOULD CONTINUE SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE TO COOL PDRY REVOLUTIONARY ARDOR. I WISHED SABAH LUCK.
STOLTZFUS

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